

APR 20 1956

Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-RDP70-00058R000100050001-4

April 20, 1956

(EXCERPT)

Fulton Lewis, Jr., at 7:00 P. M. over WWDC (Washington) and the  
MBS Network;

CPYRGHT

"The Senate Internal Security Subcommittee today heard a first-hand account of a disturbing story--still with a considerable question mark at the end of it--story about five Russian sailors who have taken voluntary refuge in the United States since their cargo ship was interned in Formosa in 1954, who were spirited under threat by Russian officials in the United States, through Idlewild National Airport outside of New York City several weeks ago, and while U. S. officials looked on with full cognizance of what was happening, they were herded into a trans-Atlantic commercial transport plane and sent back to Russia.

"The witness is a 20-year-old husky blond boy who testified through a committee-hired translator and he was a sixth in the group of refugee sailors who had been living in New York under the auspices of a church organization there. He gave his name as Victor Soleyev, that is spelled S-O-L-E-V-Y-E-V, and he told the committee that he and the other five refugees were living contently, most of them with jobs in New York City, when on April 6 he heard a knock on his hotel room door, opened to find several men.

"He said he thought at first they were FBI agents, but he found out quickly that they were not, that they were Russian government agents and their mission was to invite him to come to the apartment of the Russian delegate to the United Nations, (Archides A. Sobelev?), who, they said, wanted to talk to the sailor. They told him that several of the other sailors in the group had accepted the invitation and that they were conferring with Sobelev that afternoon.

"The young sailor refused to go, said that he intended to remain in the United States. The agents then mentioned his mother, he said, and showed pictures of his mother, his sister and his sweetheart. He said the inference to their conversation was that all would suffer if he refused to return to Russia. The witness said that the Russian agents even produced a letter which was written in what appeared to be his mother's handwriting, and was signed by her, which mentioned possible reprisals against the mother and other members of the family if he failed to come home, and appealed to him to do so.